

RESOLUTION NO. _____, SERIES 2008

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING GOVERNOR STEVE BESHEAR, LOUISVILLE METRO MAYOR JERRY ABRAMSON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY JOHN HINDMAN, AND GREATER LOUISVILLE INC. PRESIDENT JOE REAGAN ON THEIR VISIT TO FORD MOTOR COMPANY HEADQUARTERS IN DEARBORN, MICHIGAN.

Sponsored By: Councilman Rick Blackwell, Councilwoman Madonna Flood, Councilwoman Vicki Welch, Councilman Bob Henderson; Councilwoman Marianne Butler; Councilman David Tandy; Councilman Tom Owen; Councilman Dan Johnson; Councilwoman Judy Green; Councilwoman Barbara Shanklin; Councilwoman Mary Woolridge;

WHEREAS, the Ford Motor Company has roots in the city of Louisville that date back to 1913 when Model Ts were produced, and now, hundreds of thousands of vehicles each year are built at Ford's two automotive plants in Louisville, including the Ford Explorer and the F-Series trucks; and

WHEREAS, the Ford Motor Company employs, outside of Michigan, more workers in Louisville than anywhere else in the world, employing 2,200 workers at the Louisville Assembly Plant, and more than 4,100 workers at the Kentucky Truck Plant; and

WHEREAS, beyond the tremendous employment opportunity for thousands of employees at the Louisville Ford Motor plants, the economic impact of the Ford Motor Co. to local business and throughout the community is enormous as Ford's success infuses hundreds of millions of dollars annually into the local economy; and

WHEREAS, beyond the Louisville Assembly Plant and the Kentucky Truck Plant in Jefferson County, the suppliers, vendors, and automotive parts plants make up nearly 34,000 other jobs throughout Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, the Ford Motor Company in Louisville has enjoyed a strong working relationship between management and labor, having been awarded the University of Louisville Labor-Management Award on numerous occasions; and

WHEREAS, the Ford Motor Company has fallen on hard times, leaving their Louisville employees, local business, and state and local officials extremely concerned about the future of the two major assembly plants in Louisville; and

WHEREAS, the Louisville Metro Council passed Ordinance 161 Series 2003 on September 11, 2003, and was signed by Mayor Jerry Abramson on September 16, 2003, which provides financial incentives to assist the Ford Motor Company to save 8,000 jobs in Jefferson County, and to continue its significant contribution to Jefferson County and to the overall economy of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Governor Steve Beshear and Louisville Metro Mayor Jerry Abramson scheduled a recent meeting to discuss the future of Ford Motor Company operations in Louisville, including the production of a new vehicle at the Louisville Assembly Plant beginning in the fall of 2011;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (THE COUNCIL) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: This honorable body hereby commends and expresses its deep appreciation to Governor Steve Beshear; Mayor Jerry Abramson, Louisville Metro-Government; Secretary John Hindman, Economic Development Cabinet; and Joe Reagan, President of Greater Louisville Inc., for traveling to Dearborn, Michigan to meet with officials of the Ford Motor Company to discuss the future of Ford's operations in Kentucky, especially retention of existing jobs and production of a new Ford vehicle, both of which are so vital to the economy of Jefferson County and the Commonwealth.

SECTION II: This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

Kathleen J. Herron
Metro Council Clerk

Jim King
President of the Council

Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor

Approval Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Irv Maze
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: _____